

Amendment to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for automating recurrent electronic transactions conducted over a network, comprising:

performing analysis of electronic activities conducted by a network user;

inferring an intent to execute a transaction by saidthe network user, the inference based upon results of the analysis and absent any explicit action by the network user to execute the transaction; and

automatically executing the transaction on behalf of saidthe network user;

wherein saidthe analysis includes:

comparing saidthe electronic activities with previously-conducted electronic activities by the network user; and

applying user-defined policies to saidthe electronic activities.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein saidthe electronic activities include at least one of:

accessing a web site;

performing a detectable user action on a web page;

drafting an email;

searching a web-based electronic search engine;

accessing a personal information calendar;

entering a new task or accessing an existing task in an electronic task folder; and

creating, editing, or viewing a document.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein saidthe comparing saidthe electronic activities with previously-conducted electronic activities further comprises:

collecting data entered by saidthe network user;

parsing said the data by comparing said the data to data stored in a database containing said the previously-conducted electronic activities, said the parsing resulting in a suggested electronic transaction for execution;

searching said the database for related resources associated with said the suggested electronic transaction; and

searching a profile database storing policies and rules created by said the network user, said the policies and rules operable for specifying conditions for authorizing and executing said the suggested electronic transaction;

wherein said the policies and rules include at least one of:

placing an upper limit on an amount of money that is authorized to be spent on a transaction;

placing a time limit on when a transaction may be executed;

prescribing authorized vendors, suppliers, or entities through which a transaction may be entered; and

specifying delivery options for items and services associated with a transaction.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

searching a service/product database to ensure said the items and services associated with said the transaction are available.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

searching a service/product database to ensure that said the items and services associated with said the transaction are compatible with said the transaction.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim, 1 further comprising:

generating an electronic invoice upon execution of said the transaction; and
notifying said the network user that said the transaction has been completed.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said the notification is sent via an application programming interface.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein ~~said~~the notification is sent via at least one of:

- an email program on a computer device;
- a pager;
- a telephone call via a voice network;
- a computer-generated voice messaging system over a telephone line;
- a call on a mobile wireless device;
- a personal digital assistant; and
- an instant message program.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the previously-conducted electronic activities include at least one of:

- an occurrence of a meeting including parameters comprising:
 - a number of participants;
 - a meeting location;
 - a time of day; and
 - meeting resources and materials;
- a web site search;
- an electronic purchase;
- an email message received or transmitted by ~~said~~the network user;
- a calendar item generated or accessed by ~~said~~the network user; and
- a task item generated or accessed by ~~said~~the network user.

10. (Currently amended) A storage medium comprising machine-readable computer program code for automating recurrent electronic transactions conducted over a network, the storage medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method comprising:

performing analysis of electronic activities conducted by a network user;

inferring an intent to execute a transaction by ~~said~~the network user, the inference based upon results of the analysis and absent any explicit action by the network user to execute the transaction; and

executing ~~said~~the transaction on behalf of ~~said~~the network user;

wherein ~~said~~the analysis includes:

comparing ~~said~~the electronic activities with previously-conducted electronic activities by the network user; and

applying user-defined policies to ~~said~~the electronic activities.

11. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein ~~said~~the electronic activities include at least one of:

accessing a web site;

performing a detectable action on a web page;

drafting an email;

searching a web-based electronic search engine;

accessing a personal information calendar;

entering a new task or accessing an existing task in an electronic task folder; and

creating, editing, or viewing a document.

12. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein ~~said~~the comparing ~~said~~the electronic activities with previously-conducted electronic activities further comprises:

collecting data entered by ~~said~~the network user;

parsing ~~said~~the data by comparing ~~said~~the data to data stored in a database containing ~~said~~the previously-conducted electronic activities, ~~said~~the parsing resulting in a suggested electronic transaction for execution;

searching ~~said~~the database for related resources associated with ~~said~~the suggested

electronic transaction; and

searching a profile database storing policies and rules created by ~~said~~the network user, ~~said~~the policies and rules operable for specifying conditions for authorizing and executing ~~said~~the suggested electronic transaction;

wherein ~~said~~the policies and rules include at least one of:

placing an upper limit on an amount of money that is authorized to be spent on a transaction;

placing a time limit on when a transaction may be executed;

prescribing authorized vendors, suppliers, or entities through which a transaction may be entered; and

specifying delivery options for items and services associated with a transaction.

13. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 12, further comprising instructions for causing ~~said~~the computer to implement:

searching a service/product database to ensure ~~said~~the items and services associated with ~~said~~the transaction are available.

14. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 12, further comprising instructions for causing ~~said~~the computer to implement:

searching a service/product database to ensure that ~~said~~the items and services associated with ~~said~~the transaction are compatible with ~~said~~the transaction.

15. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim, 10 further comprising instructions for causing ~~said~~the computer to implement:

generating an electronic invoice upon execution of ~~said~~the transaction; and
notifying ~~said~~the network user that ~~said~~the transaction has been completed.

16. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 15, wherein ~~said~~the notification is sent via an application programming interface.

17. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 15, wherein ~~said~~the

notification is sent via at least one of:

- an email program on a computer device;
- a pager;
- a telephone call via a voice network;
- a computer-generated voice messaging system over a telephone line;
- a call on a mobile wireless device;
- a personal digital assistant; and
- an instant message program.

18. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 10, wherein ~~said~~the previously-conducted electronic activities include at least one of:

- an occurrence of a meeting including parameters comprising:
 - a number of participants;
 - a meeting location;
 - a time of day; and
 - meeting resources and materials;
- a web site search;
- an electronic purchase;
- an email message received or transmitted by ~~said~~the network user;
- a calendar item generated or accessed by ~~said~~the network user; and
- a task item generated or accessed by ~~said~~the network user.

19. (Currently amended) A system for automating recurrent electronic transactions conducted over a network, comprising:

- a computer system; and
- a purchasing system executed via the computer system, the purchasing system

implementing a method, comprising:

performing analysis of electronic activities conducted by a network user;

inferring an intent to execute a transaction by the network user, the inference based upon results of the analysis and absent any explicit action by the network user to execute the transaction; and

automatically executing the transaction on behalf of the network user;

wherein the analysis includes:

comparing the electronic activities with previously-conducted electronic activities by the network user; and

applying user-defined policies to the electronic activities.

including:

~~a customer input module operable for receiving data input from a network user, said data input relating to electronic activities conducted by said network user;~~

~~an input parsing module operable for receiving said data input, said input parsing module interpreting said data input;~~

~~————— a context database in communication with said input parsing module;~~

~~———— wherein said input parsing module compares said data input with data provided in said context database resulting in a suggested electronic transaction; and~~

~~———— wherein further, said context database stores data relating to previously-conducted electronic activities by said network user;~~

~~a service/product arrangement module operable for selecting resources relating to said suggested electronic transaction; and~~

~~a personal policy module and policy database, said personal policy module operable for receiving specific rules and policies entered by said network user, said specific rules and policies relating to authorization of potential electronic transactions for execution; and~~

~~a link to a network computer, said network computer operated by said network user.~~

20. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein comparing the electronic activities with previously-conducted electronic activities further comprises:

collecting data entered by the network user;

parsing the data by comparing the data to data stored in a database containing the previously-conducted electronic activities, the parsing resulting in a suggested electronic transaction for execution;

searching the database for related resources associated with the suggested electronic transaction; and

searching a profile database storing policies and rules created by the network user, the policies and rules operable for specifying conditions for authorizing and executing the suggested electronic transaction;

wherein the policies and rules include at least one of:

placing an upper limit on an amount of money that is authorized to be spent on a transaction;

placing a time limit on when a transaction may be executed;

prescribing authorized vendors, suppliers, or entities through which a transaction may be entered; and

specifying delivery options for items and services associated with a transaction.

~~said purchasing system further includes:~~

~~—— a purchasing and billing module operable for generating invoices relating to executed electronic transactions;~~

~~—— a service/product capabilities module and service/product database operable for identifying available items and services available for execution; and~~

~~—— a user output module, said user output module operable for generating notification of successful execution of electronic transactions.~~

21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein ~~said~~the electronic activities

comprises at least one of:

- accessing a web site;
- performing a detectable action on a web page;
- drafting an email;
- searching a web-based electronic search engine;
- accessing a personal information calendar;
- entering a new task or accessing an existing task in an electronic task folder; and
- creating, editing, or viewing a document.

22. (Currently amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the purchasing system further performs:

searching a service/product database to ensure the items and services associated with the transaction are available; and

searching a service/product database to ensure that the items and services associated with the transaction are compatible with the transaction. ~~wherein said notification is sent to said network user via at least one of:~~

- ~~an email program on a computer device;~~
- ~~a pager;~~
- ~~—— a telephone call via a voice network;~~
- ~~—— a computer generated voice messaging system over a telephone line;~~
- ~~—— a call on a mobile wireless device;~~
- ~~—— a personal digital assistant; and~~
- ~~—— an instant message program.~~

23. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein ~~said~~the purchasing system is executed via an application programming interface on ~~said~~the network computer.

24. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein ~~said~~the previously-

conducted electronic activities include at least one of:

an occurrence of a meeting including parameters comprising:

a number of participants;

a meeting location;

a time of day; and

meeting resources and materials;

a web site search;

an electronic purchase;

an email message received or transmitted by ~~said~~the network user;

a calendar item generated or accessed by ~~said~~the network user; and

a task item generated or accessed by ~~said~~the network user.